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Patent  
USSN 09/375,267  
Atty Docket 99108

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HANS LOSCHNER, ET AL.

For: PARTICLE MULTIBEAM LITHOGRAPHY

Serial No. ~~09/375,267~~  
09/375,627

Filed: August 17, 1999

Group Art Unit:  
2881

Examiner:  
Anthony Quash

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

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**AMENDMENT A**

TO:  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Action mailed on January 26, 2001, applicants request that the subject application be amended as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 4 and amend claim 1 in the manner set forth below. A clean copy of the claims is enclosed herewith.

1. (Amended) An apparatus for multibeam lithography by means of electrically charged particles, comprising an illumination system having a particle source, the illumination system producing an illuminating beam of said electrically charged particles, and a multibeam optical system positioned after the illumination system as seen in the direction of the beam, said multibeam optical system comprising at least one aperture plate having an array of a plurality of apertures to form a plurality of sub-beams, wherein the multibeam optical system focuses the sub-beams onto the surface of a substrate,

wherein for each sub-beam a deflection unit is provided, said deflection unit being positioned within the multibeam optical system and adapted to correct

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on first-class mail in an envelope addressed for Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 on:

Date 4/23/01 [Signature]

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